

Moore: Neighborhoods improving Ukrainian-Americans thankful

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of which I adopted five for the group: Safety, Property Values, Infrastructure, Social Structure, and Sustainability. We had our area leaders lead us with the SWOT analysis for each area and then we will write project or improvement plans.

Now, I do think we have been improving already. I am so proud of the work of more than 60 neighborhoods for already winning Neighbor-

hood of the Month for the outstanding condition of their front entranceways. These same groups have also been strong on advocacy. One area successfully stopped an undesirable store from locating in a new strip center and another advocated for a new upscale grocery store. One group is in the process of erecting area branding pole banners. And most neighborhoods have pressure-washed walls and greatly improved the appearance of their community.

All of this leads me to one of my favorite initiatives: fall improvement or beautification. I awarded schools, while serving as your school board member, for their efforts rallying students, PTAs, agriscience groups, and the like, to take pride in their campus.

We are doing the same type of effort with our major streets or corridors. I developed a Corridor of the Year Contest to encourage our neighborhood

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Editor:

The Ukrainian-American community has uniquely strong ties to Apopka as the Lake McCoy Oaks development was incorporated specifically to create a Ukrainian village in 1977 in the welcoming and growing environment of this wonderful city. St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church on Lake McCoy Drive has served as both the spiritual and cultural center for all of greater Orlando's Ukrainians for almost 40 years.

Our commitment to Apopka and Apopka's

commitment to our people was emphasized two weeks ago when the Orlando area's celebration for the 30th anniversary of Ukrainian independence was held at the amphitheater in the Northwest Recreation Complex.

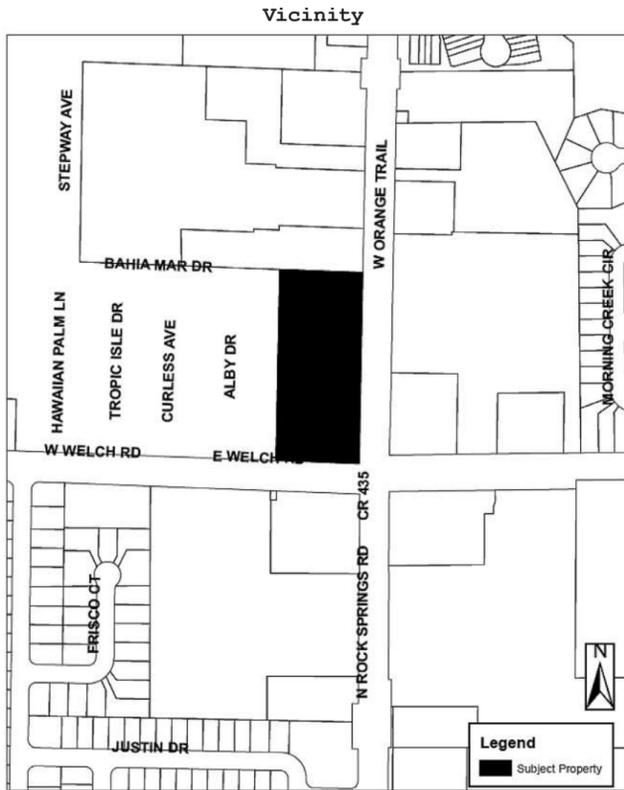
The Ukrainian-American community would like to express our deepest gratitude to Mayor Bryan Nelson for his support of this keystone event in this history of our homeland and for his unwavering encouragement over many years to the growth and strength of our contributions to Apopka and the region.

In equal measure, we express profound thanks to *The Apopka Chief* and *The Planter*, editor and staff, for supporting us for four decades. Without your professional and empathetic voice through the printed word, not only the Ukrainian-American community, but all of Apopka and surrounding communities would be poorer by far. We salute your years of service to us and the region and thank you for everything you represent and accomplish.

Stephanie DiAngelis
Apopka

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Sec. 166.041(3)(c), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B), that **Jonathan Huels** has made an application, to the City of Apopka City Council, and Apopka Planning Commission for a **change in zoning from T (Transitional) to C-COR (Corridor Commercial)**. This application relates to the following described property located at 1506 Rock Springs Road.



Parcel I.D.: 33-20-28-0000-00-029
Contains: 3.99 +/- Acres

ORDINANCE NO. 2871
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL) TO C-COR (CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL) FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1506 ROCK SPRINGS ROAD, COMPRISING 3.9 ACRES MORE OR LESS, AND REID MARY F ESTATE PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider the change of zoning requests at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021 beginning at 5:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Further, notice is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 2871 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meetings in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, October 6, 2021, beginning at 1:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible AND on **Wednesday, October 20, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Zoning can be inspected at the Apopka Community Development Department located at Apopka City Hall on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. City Hall address shown below. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka FL 32703, Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

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Byrd: Wheatley's staff deserving

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ed for Wheatley because I knew the hard work they had put in and I would have loved to see their improved grades.

This past year, 2020-2021 school year, the state decided to once again not give out school grades since it was an extremely challenging year and many students were still not in school full time. But they did say that grades could be requested for schools if those scores would be used

for dismissal from a state turnaround plan.

Wheatley was put in a turnaround plan with the state after they received a second D the first year I was coming on the board in 2018-2019. Their turnaround plan was implemented under the very capable and exceptional direction of the new Principal Lukeshia Miller. Extra investments were made, changes in the culture happened, the community stepped up, and big changes happened.

After getting the most recent state testing results from the 2020-2021 school year, I am beyond thrilled to announce that we will be requesting our school grade for Wheatley because according to our district calculations, Wheatley will earn a C grade, allowing for their exit from the state turnaround plan.

The following are just some of the examples of improved student achievement during the last school

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Grenkoski: More studies needed

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that masks were more effective at preventing spread than social distancing." The study does demonstrate that distancing of more than three feet or less than three feet made no difference in transmission rates, but there was no actual clinical study of mask effectiveness conducted.

As the director of marketing for a large healthcare company, I could not use these studies as evidence to make a claim of efficacy for a mask reducing virus transmission. The healthcare industry requires rigorous, statistically significant, repeatable studies be used to make claims. Disclaimers would be required by my own

company's regulatory and legal teams, not to mention the FDA. Readers of Ms. Byrd's column should demand she provide appropriate context of data or not provide any at all.

I agree that masking has not been widely studied. However, I found five peer-reviewed clinical studies/metadata analysis on the efficacy of masks published and available to read: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7357397/>
https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994_article
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4420971/>
<https://www.swprs.org/danish-mask-study-no-benefit/>

<https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0057100>

Lastly, data is starting to appear that prescribes the potential RISKS to children wearing masks all day. One analysis, performed by University of Florida, found 11 pathogens (using a control sample) on children's face coverings including bacteria that cause diphtheria, pneumonia, and meningitis. Your readers should review the findings for themselves. A link to the data can be found at: <https://rational-ground.com/dangerous-pathogens-found-on-childrens-face-masks/>.

Ms. Byrd is using opinion and hyperbole as fact. The responsibility

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Thomas: Actions taken hurt U.S.

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the military troops that are already in enemy territory being abandoned to fend for themselves as best they can?

A wounded veteran, Captain Sam Browne, running for U.S. Senate in Nevada, says that he knows families who have served their country for generations, who now will not support or encourage their children or grandchildren in serving in the military simply because of the lies that President Biden has told and continues to tell.

We are also leaving behind billions of dollars in equipment that will be used by the Taliban who rationalize, "Well, they left the equipment for the Afghanistan people, whom we now govern, and we will use it."

Our allies around the world realize, "Well, we'd better not go to bat for them because they sure won't go to bat for us if we get in a tight spot."

I hear many brave veterans, even those with grievous wounds, saying they don't regret their service for a minute. But Biden is throwing away

the freedoms these people have fought and died for; their sacrifices mean nothing to him.

I would surely regret giving life and limb for a nation that is so gutless and stupid they won't stand up to protect that which they already possess. This is a nation that people from the far corners of the Earth would give everything they own to simply come to and bring their families so they, too, can become Americans.

Nancy C. Thomas
Apopka

ALL ABOUT APOPKA

Established 1923
(USPS 545-440)

The Apopka Chief is published every Friday and entered as Periodicals, postage paid at Apopka Post Office, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. The Apopka Chief newspaper is published by Foliage Enterprises, Inc., every Friday at 400 North Park Avenue, Apopka, Fla., 32712-3417. An annual subscription is \$25 in Orange County and \$30 outside Orange County. Phone 407-886-2777. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Apopka Chief, P.O. Box 880, Apopka, Fla., 32704-0880.

The Apopka Chief is a consistent award-winning community weekly newspaper and a member of the Florida Press Association. The newspaper won the group's award as its best newspaper in 1982, 1987, and 1988, the only three-time winner. Letters to the editor are welcome, but must be signed and include a daytime telephone number, address, or email address for verification. Management reserves the right to edit letters.

www.theapokkachief.com, news@theapokkachief.com



City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

City Hall	407-703-1700
Mayor's Office	407-703-1701
City Administrator	407-703-1649
City Clerk	407-703-1704
Community Devel.	407-703-1712
Code Enforcement	407-703-1738
Finance Dept.	407-703-1725
Fire (non-emerg.)	407-703-1756
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-703-1741
Police Chief	407-703-1769
Police (non-emerg.)	407-703-1771
Job Line	407-703-1743
Solid Waste Collect.	407-703-1731
Street Maintenance	407-703-1731
Utility Billing	407-703-1727
Medical, fire emergency	911
The city of Apopka was chartered in 1882. It is located at 28°30 north latitude and is 150 feet above sea level. Its population is about 48,000 and its total area is more than 30 sq. mi. www.apopka.net	

Orange County Telephone Numbers

Animal Services	407-836-3111
Auto/Boat Tags	850-617-2000
Building Dept.	407-836-8550
County Mayor	407-836-7370
County Commission	407-836-7350
County Attorney	407-836-7320
Clerk of the Court	407-836-2065
Elections Supervisor	407-836-2070
Fire/Rescue	407-836-3111
Solid Waste	407-836-6601
Garbage Collection	407-703-1731
Health Dept.	407-836-2600
Hunting/Fishing Lic	888-347-4356
Parks and Rec. Dept.	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative	407-254-7000
Non-Emerg. Complaint	407-836-4357
Utilities	407-836-5515
All other departments	407-836-3111
Medical, fire emergency	911
www.orangecountyfl.net	

Other Area Numbers of Note

U.S. Senators	
Rick Scott (Rep.)	202-224-5274
Marco Rubio (Rep.)	407-254-2573
U.S. Representative	
Val Demings (Dist. 10)	321-388-9808
State Representatives	
Keith Truenow	352-742-6275
Kamia Brown (Dist. 45)	850-717-5045
State Senators	
Randolph Bracy (Dist. 11)	407-297-2045
Orange County Commissioner	
Christine Moore	407-836-7350
Orange County Public Schools	
Pupil assignment	407-317-3233
Bus routes	407-317-3800
Superintendent	407-317-3200
School Board	407-317-3200
Miscellaneous	
The Apopka Chief	407-886-2777
Museum of the Apopkans	407-703-1707
Chamber of Commerce	407-886-1441

